



WELLESLEY

Norfolk County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Wellesley is a predominantly residential community, located approximately 13 miles west of Boston. Its geographic location and its visual characteristics make it a highly desirable suburb for people who work in Boston. Wellesley although a residential community, is also an employment center, having several attractive office parks located primarily on its eastern border.

The town is also a college community, having within its boundaries Wellesley College and Babson College, two private educational institutions, as well as Massachusetts Bay Community College.

Wellesley is equidistant from the north shore and south shore recreational facilities with access provided by Route 128/Route 95, a circumferential highway which skirts its eastern border. It is a gateway access to the western part of the state through access to the Massachusetts turnpike located just over Wellesley's northern border.

The town derives approximately 85% of its tax revenue from a residential tax base with 15% derived from non-residential uses.

Wellesley has been a leader in environmental issues and the town's attractiveness is ample evidence of that philosophy.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Natick on the west, Weston and Newton on the north, Needham on the east and southeast, and Dover on the south. Wellesley is 13 miles west of Boston; 27 miles east of Worcester; 40 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 205 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 10.49 sq. miles

Land Area: 10.18 sq. miles

Population: 26,615

Density: 2,614 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Framingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.7°F

Normal temperature in July.....72.9°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.9"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Natick, Newton

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 431-1019

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Executive Secretary

Representative Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1881

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
--------	---

Total Registered 15,745

Democrats 4,244 27.0 % Republicans 4,166 26.5 % Other parties 6 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 7,329 46.5 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Wellesley town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	26,613	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	26,613	100.0
Male.....	11,651	43.8	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	617	2.3
Female.....	14,962	56.2	Mexican.....	125	0.5
Under 5 years.....	1,954	7.3	Puerto Rican.....	80	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	1,953	7.3	Cuban.....	56	0.2
10 to 14 years.....	1,800	6.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	356	1.3
15 to 19 years.....	2,505	9.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	25,996	97.7
20 to 24 years.....	2,161	8.1	White alone.....	23,509	88.3
25 to 34 years.....	1,892	7.1	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	4,193	15.8	Total population.....	26,613	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,938	14.8	In households.....	23,181	87.1
55 to 59 years.....	1,437	5.4	Householder.....	8,594	32.3
60 to 64 years.....	1,070	4.0	Spouse.....	5,772	21.7
65 to 74 years.....	1,802	6.8	Child.....	7,814	29.4
75 to 84 years.....	1,375	5.2	Own child under 18 years.....	6,536	24.6
85 years and over.....	533	2.0	Other relatives.....	430	1.6
Median age (years).....	37.6	(X)	Under 18 years.....	79	0.3
18 years and over.....	19,938	74.9	Nonrelatives.....	571	2.1
Male.....	8,286	31.1	Unmarried partner.....	174	0.7
Female.....	11,652	43.8	In group quarters.....	3,432	12.9
21 years and over.....	17,589	66.1	Institutionalized population.....	399	1.5
62 years and over.....	4,328	16.3	Noninstitutionalized population.....	3,033	11.4
65 years and over.....	3,710	13.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,484	5.6	Total households.....	8,594	100.0
Female.....	2,226	8.4	Family households (families).....	6,537	76.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,427	39.9
One race.....	26,230	98.6	Married-couple family.....	5,772	67.2
White.....	23,947	90.0	With own children under 18 years.....	3,078	35.8
Black or African American.....	426	1.6	Female householder, no husband present.....	607	7.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	22	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	288	3.4
Asian.....	1,691	6.4	Nonfamily households.....	2,067	23.9
Asian Indian.....	300	1.1	Householder living alone.....	1,775	20.7
Chinese.....	854	3.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	901	10.5
Filipino.....	43	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,480	40.5
Japanese.....	120	0.5	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	2,436	28.3
Korean.....	266	1.0	Average household size.....	2.70	(X)
Vietnamese.....	22	0.1	Average family size.....	3.14	(X)
Other Asian ¹	86	0.3	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	8,861	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	8,594	97.0
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	2	-	Vacant housing units.....	267	3.0
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	72	0.8
Some other race.....	141	0.5	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.8	(X)
Two or more races.....	383	1.4	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.4	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	8,594	100.0
White.....	24,286	91.3	Owner-occupied housing units.....	7,139	83.1
Black or African American.....	517	1.9	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,455	16.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	86	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.84	(X)
Asian.....	1,904	7.2	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.98	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	18	0.1			
Some other race.....	219	0.8			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 235

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 6

Federal (Section 8): 11



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Wellesley is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 9 (cross-state), 16, and 135; and Interstate 95 and State Route 128, which share the same roadway.

Rail

Commuter rail service to Back Bay Station and South Station, Boston, is available from Wellesley Square (travel time to BBS 28-31 min.; 260 MBTA parking spaces), Wellesley Hills (travel time 25-27 min.; 50 spaces), and Wellesley Farms (travel time 22-24 min.; 135 spaces.) Conrail services a freight rail line through Wellesley. Contact number: (781) 783-6222

Bus

Wellesley is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA).

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
106 Central Street
(781) 283-2051
Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
(781) 235-6690

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Dana Hall Infirmary
Simpson Infirmary

Long Term Care

Elizabeth Seton Residence
Newton and Wellesley Nursing Home
Wellesley Manor Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Wellesley Therapeutic Ser. Inc

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.